has reported that there is shortage of drinking water in some areas of South Delhi/South West/East Delhi which are at the tail end of the distribution system as well as areas located at an elevated level.

(b) to (d) Financial assistance to Delhi Jal Board (DJB) for setting up of water treatment plants in Delhi is provided by the Government of NCT of Delhi. No financial assistance is proposed to be provided by the Government of India.

Scarcity of water in Metro Cities

†1304. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that common people are facing the problem of acute shortage of water in summer in Metropolitan City like Delhi;

(b) whether Government have prepared any new water projects in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Under Article 246 (2) read with Entry 17 of List II-State List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution, "Water, that is to say, water supplies" falls within the legislative jurisdiction of the States. It is therefore, the responsibility of the State Governments to plan, execute, maintain and operate water supply projects.

Covering of drains in Delhi

1305. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the recent directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court that dirty nallahs flowing through inhabited areas in Delhi be covered, whether Delhi Administration or other agencies like DDA etc., have drawn up any action plan for the purpose;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if reply to part (a) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor and by when the concerned agencies are likely to take appropriate action in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Inconvenience due to Iron Gates

†1306. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Housing Welfare Associations and the residents of private colonies are getting big iron gates installed in their respective colonies in the name of security due to which the common passages and the paths connecting two areas are getting obstructed and people are facing difficulties in movements; and

(b) if so, whether Government would consider removal of the unnecessarily installed gates and also making it obligatory to obtain No Objection Certificate from the local authorities before installing a gate because people are parking their cars right in the middle of the road behind the gates?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The Residents' Welfare Associations in various colonies are reported to have installed iron gates as a security measure. There have been few representations against erection of such gates. A public interest petition was also filed in the Delhi High Court in this regard. The Hon'ble High Court in its order dated 27th May, 2003, directed the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) and Police authorities to frame norms in the matter. The MCD has now made it mandatory to obtain No Objection Certificate from the Police Authorities as well as Fire Department before granting permission for erection of gates in residential colonies.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.